

**TITLE: The Philosophy of Louis Althusser in his ,theoreticist‘ period**

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**ABSTRACT:**

The thesis focuses on a philosophy of Louis Althusser in his “teoreticist” period, i.e. 1960–1967. The work is divided to four essentials sections: epistemology, ontology, psychoanalyse and ideology. We put accent on epistemological problematic, which is in this period of a development of Althusser’s philosophy unequivocally dominant.

In introduction of this text is explained historical and political context, in which Althusser realized his “theoretical intervention”. The thesis treat on Althusser’s conviction, that inadequate theory leads to deformed political practice and that Marxist theory exists till now in his “applied form”, notably in *The Capital*. According to Althusser this Marxist theory wasn’t adequately *theoretically* formed. Our work characterises Althusser’s tentative to create and theoretically formulate this theory. This Althusser’s tentative is connected with an effort to draw a “line of demarcation” between the Marxism and the pre-Marxist idealist notions, which are foreign to authentic Marxism.

Althusser’s critique focuses on Stalinism, “theoretical humanism”, empiricism and Hegelianism. In present thesis is this critique widely described and connected with Althusser’s accent on basic theoretical difference between Marx and Hegel. The thesis describes also Althusser’s accent on an “epistemological break” in the history of Marx’s thought.

The first section of our work deals with epistemology. In this section an influence of French epistemology to Althusser’ effort to found and justify scientificity of Marxism is described. It is mapped and highlighted an importance of Gaston Bachelard (above all his conceptions of an “epistemological break”, an “epistemological obstacles” and “*connaissance commune*”) for philosophy of Louis Althusser.

In the thesis are also described Althusser’s conception of dialectical materialism as a general “theory of theoretical practice” (general epistemology) and his conception of historical materialism as the scientific theory of history. But the kernel of this section is a characteristic of Althusser’s reading and interpretation of Marx. Althusser on the base of this specific reading try to prove his assertions about Marxist philosophy and Marxist science. The

great part of the work deals with Althusser's arguments and with critique of these arguments. At the same time is analysed Althusser's conception of a "symptomatic reading", there is analysed it's significance within Althusser's work and it's connexion with psychoanalyse.

Among important theoretical problems analysed in present thesis there is Althusser's conception of a structure and a problematic of a structural causality. We analysed also a concepts like a "structure in dominance", "determination in the last instance", "overdetermination", "absent cause", "conjuncture", a difference between "determination" and "domination" etc.

The next section treats Althusser's relation to psychoanalyse, especially to Lacanian psychoanalyse. We analyse the development and qualitative changes of Althusser's attitude to work of Lacan.

The last section deals with Althusser's conception of ideology and ideological state apparatus. It treats conception of ideological interpellation and theory of the subject.